

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-26 (Canceled).

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): A method for improving at least one mechanical property selected from the group consisting of the level of at least one mechanical property of a polyolefin composition (C2),

~~the mechanical property relating at least to the low-speed mechanical behavior, the operating temperature range, the high-speed mechanical behavior and/or the change in the mechanical behavior over time~~ of a polyolefin composition (C2) in need thereof,

the polyolefin composition (C2) comprising at least one modified polyolefin (P2) chosen from polyethylenes and polypropylenes, ~~the said polyolefin (P2) being modified by grafting with acid and/or anhydride groups, which groups are optionally completely or partially neutralized by a neutralizing agent, and~~

the method comprising adding an amount of at least one unmodified polyolefin (P1) chosen from polyethylenes and polypropylenes to the polyolefin composition (C2) effective to provide an improved composition up to a level which is improved both with respect to that of the mechanical property of the polyolefin composition (C2) and with respect to that of the mechanical property of a polyolefin composition (C1) obtained by replacing, weight for weight in the polyolefin composition (C2), all the modified polyolefin (P2) by at least one unmodified polyolefin (P1) chosen from polyethylenes and polypropylenes;

~~the method comprising using the unmodified polyolefin (P1) as an additive of the polyolefin composition (C2).~~

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 27, wherein the mechanical property ~~relates at least to~~ includes the low-speed mechanical behavior, ~~and the said mechanical property comprises the~~ comprising tensile elastic modulus and/or the elongation at break.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 27, wherein the mechanical property ~~relates at least to~~ includes the operating temperature range, ~~and the said mechanical property comprises the~~ comprising softening temperature in the Vicat 10N test.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 27, wherein the mechanical property ~~relates at least to~~ includes the high-speed mechanical behavior, ~~and the said mechanical property comprises the~~ comprising the impact strength and/or the peak force in the instrumented falling weight test.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 27, wherein the mechanical property ~~relates at least to~~ includes the change in the mechanical behavior over time, ~~and the said mechanical property comprises the~~ comprising tensile elastic modulus after 100 h under a stress of 10 MPa.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 27, wherein the polyolefin (P1) is a polypropylene and the polyolefin (P2) is a polypropylene.

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 32, wherein

- the polyolefin (P1) is a propylene homopolymer,

- the polyolefin (P2) is a propylene homopolymer, the acid and/or anhydride groups of which are not neutralized, and
- the mechanical property relates ~~either at least to~~ at least one of the low-speed mechanical behavior, ~~or at least to the operating temperature range or at least to~~ and the change in the mechanical behavior over time.

Claim 34 (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 32, wherein

- the polyolefin (P1) is a propylene homopolymer,
- the polyolefin (P2) is a propylene homopolymer, the acid and/or anhydride groups of which are completely or partially neutralized, and
- the mechanical property relates ~~either at least to~~ at least one of the low-speed mechanical behavior, ~~or at least to the operating temperature range or at least to~~ and the high-speed mechanical behavior.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 32, wherein

- the polyolefin (P1) is a random propylene copolymer,
- the polyolefin (P2) is a random propylene copolymer, the acid and/or anhydride groups of which are not neutralized, and
- the mechanical property relates at least to the low-speed mechanical behavior.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 32, wherein

- the polyolefin (P1) is a random propylene copolymer,
- the polyolefin (P2) is a random propylene copolymer, the acid and/or anhydride groups of which are completely or partially neutralized, and
- the mechanical property relates at least to the high-speed mechanical behavior.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 27, wherein the ratio by weight q_{w2} of the polyolefin (P2) to the polyolefin composition (C2) [(P2) : (C2)] is, before the addition of the polyolefin (P1), greater than 0.99.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 27, wherein the ratio by weight r_w of the polyolefin (P1) to the polyolefin (P2) [(P1) : (P2)] is greater than 8 and less than 35.

Claim 39 (Currently Amended): A method for improving ~~the level of at least one mechanical property of a polyolefin composition (C1)~~, at least one mechanical property selected from the group consisting of

~~the mechanical property relating at least to the low-speed mechanical behavior, the operating temperature range, the high-speed mechanical behavior and/or the change in the mechanical behavior over time~~ of a polyolefin composition (C1) in need thereof,

the polyolefin composition (C1) comprising at least one unmodified polyolefin (P1) chosen from polyethylenes and polypropylenes,

the method comprising adding an amount of at least one modified polyolefin (P2) to the polyolefin composition (C1) effective to provide an improved composition up to a level which is improved both with respect to that of the mechanical property of the polyolefin composition (C1) and with respect to that of the mechanical property of a polyolefin composition (C2) obtained by replacing, weight for weight in the polyolefin composition (C1), all the unmodified polyolefin (P1) by ~~at least one~~ the at least one modified polyolefin (P2), and

the at least one modified polyolefin (P2) being chosen from polyethylenes and polypropylenes, and the said at least one modified polyolefin (P2) being modified by grafting with acid and/or anhydride groups, which groups are optionally completely or partially neutralized by at least one neutralizing agent,
~~the method comprising using the modified polyolefin (P2) as additive of the polyolefin composition (C1).~~

Claim 40 (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 39, wherein

- the polyolefin (P1) is a propylene homopolymer,
- the polyolefin (P2) is a propylene homopolymer, the acid and/or anhydride groups of which are not neutralized, and
- the mechanical property relates ~~either at least to~~ at least one of the low-speed mechanical behavior, ~~or at least to the operating temperature range or at least to and~~ the change in the mechanical behavior over time.

Claim 41 (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 39, wherein:

- the polyolefin (P1) is a propylene homopolymer,
- the polyolefin (P2) is a propylene homopolymer, the acid and/or anhydride groups of which are completely or partially neutralized, and
- the mechanical property relates ~~either at least to~~ at least one of the low-speed mechanical behavior, ~~or at least to the operating temperature range or at least to and~~ the high-speed mechanical behavior.

Claim 42 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 39, wherein:

- the polyolefin (P1) is a random propylene copolymer,

- the polyolefin (P2) is a random propylene copolymer, the acid and/or anhydride groups of which are not neutralized, and
- the mechanical property relates at least to the low-speed mechanical behavior.

Claim 43 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 39, wherein:

- the polyolefin (P1) is a random propylene copolymer,
 - the polyolefin (P2) is a random propylene copolymer, the acid and/or anhydride groups of which are completely or partially neutralized, and
- the mechanical property relates at least to the high-speed mechanical behavior.

Claim 44 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 39, wherein the ratio by weight q_{w1} of the polyolefin (P1) to the polyolefin composition (C1) [(P1) : (C1)] is, before the addition of the polyolefin (P2), greater than 0.995.

Claim 45 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 39, wherein the ratio by weight r_w of the polyolefin (P1) to the polyolefin (P2) [(P1) : (P2)] is greater than 8 and less than 35.

Claim 46 (Currently Amended): A process for ~~the preparation of~~ preparing a-an
improved polyolefin composition, comprising:

adding a modified polyolefin (P2) to a preexisting polyolefin composition (C1), either
during preparation of the preexisting polyolefin composition (C1) or after the preexisting
polyolefin composition (C1) has been prepared, in an amount sufficient to obtain the
improved polyolefin composition;

wherein:

~~which the is improved with respect to a preexisting polyolefin composition (C1)~~
~~comprising comprises~~ at least one unmodified polyolefin (P1) chosen from polyethylenes and polypropylenes;

~~the improved polyolefin composition has an the process being carried out in the need~~
~~of improving the improved~~ level of at least one mechanical property ~~of relative to the~~
preexisting polyolefin composition (C1),

the at least one mechanical property ~~relating at least to the comprising at least one of~~
low-speed mechanical behavior, ~~the operating temperature range, the high-speed mechanical~~
behavior ~~and/or the and~~ change in the mechanical behavior over time; and

the improved polyolefin composition has an the level of the mechanical property
being improved up to a level ~~which is improved both with respect to that of the at least one~~
mechanical property of the preexisting polyolefin composition (C1) ~~and with respect to that~~
~~of the mechanical property of relative to a second polyolefin composition (C2) obtained by~~
replacing, weight for weight in the preexisting polyolefin composition (C1), all of the
unmodified polyolefin (P1) ~~by with~~ at least one modified polyolefin (P2) chosen from
polyethylenes and polypropylenes, the said polyolefin (P2) being modified by grafting with
acid and/or anhydride groups which are optionally completely or partially neutralized by at
least one neutralizing agent;

~~and the process comprising the addition of the modified polyolefin (P2) to the~~
~~preexisting polyolefin composition (C1) during the actual preparation of the said composition~~
~~or after having prepared the latter.~~

Claim 47 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 41, wherein the
polyolefin (P1) is a polypropylene and the polyolefin (P2) is a polypropylene.

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Second Preliminary Amendment

Claim 48 (Previously Presented): A semi-finished or finished article comprising an improved polyolefin composition prepared by the process according to Claim 46.

Claim 49 (Previously Presented): A semi-finished or finished article comprising an improved polyolefin composition prepared by the process according to Claim 47.